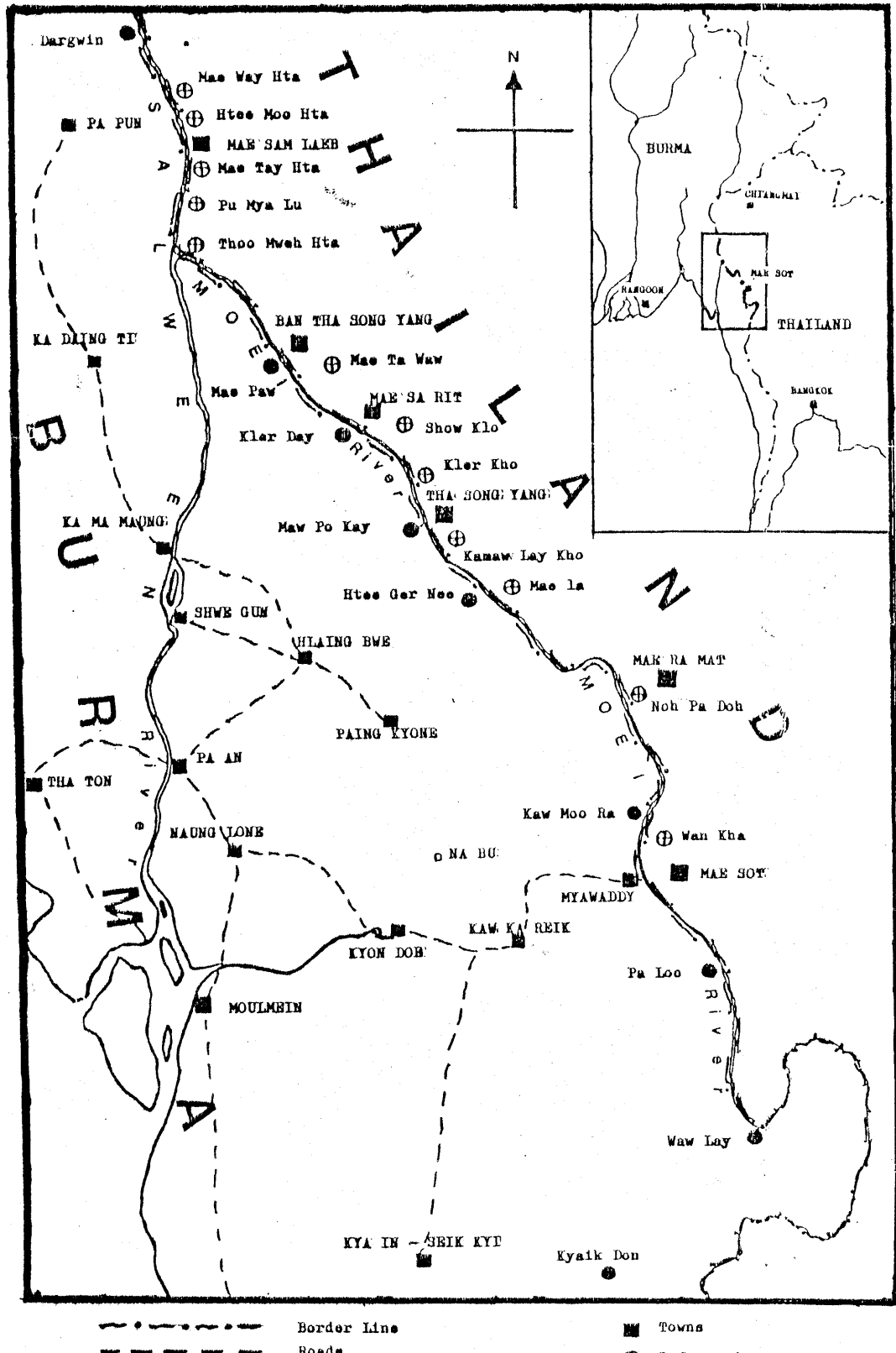


KAREN REFUGEE COMMITTEE MONTHLY REPORT

DECEMBER 1985.



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We express our sincere thanks to all the agencies and organizations which have been giving us help in every possible way for a long time now. Your help and support have seen us through another year and we are truly grateful to all of you.

The Karen Refugee Committee had never expected that this grave situation would drag on for so long. However, even with the coming of yet another new year, the prospect of returning home for the refugees is still very bleak.

Frankly speaking, because of the dangerous situation on the Karen side of the border, hundreds of families are looking towards the sanctuary of the refugee camps for shelter. This poses as a major problem for the committee. Should all these people be admitted into the refugee camps then, the refugee population which has been decreasing steadily can swell up once more. During this month 31 new families comprising of 158 people had to be admitted into Show Klo camp. Another 20 families were admitted into the other camps.

Reports had come in from villagers moving into the camps that the Burmese troops again had started their campaign of terror. Discovered rice granaries are burned down and villagers found in the forest are shot. Earlier this month a Burmese military column operating in Papun area shot dead 1 Hsaw Bweh Der villager and killed another wounded villager by cutting his throat. Discovered granaries there are also burned down.

As had been mentioned in our previous reports, rats and untimely rain had done great damage to the rice crops. Thus, the harvest yielded a mere ten-fold in some worst hit areas, less than five-fold of what they had sown. Therefore, the harvest will not help much to meet the need of the refugees.

The amount of paddy, in baskets, harvested by the various refugee camps is as follows :-

Mae Tha Waw	-	500	baskets
Show Klo	-	6,000	"
Kler Kho	-	1,400	"
Kamaw Lay Kho	-	500	"

100 baskets of paddy when turned into rice will yield roughly around 5 sacks of rice.

Though the situation is not altogether safe, beginning from harvest time more than 200 families from villages not so far from the border, had braved the danger and moved back across the border. They are now standing on their own. This is why the population of Show Klo camp drops again by nearly a thousand people. But it is hard to tell how long they will be able to stay on the other side before a raid by the Burmese troops.

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PRESENT NUMBER OF REFUGEES IN ALL THE CAMPS

NAME OF CAMP: FAM:	<u>OVER - 12 YR.</u>		<u>5 - 12 YR.</u>		<u>UNDER- 5 YR.</u>		TOTAL	
	M	F	M	F	M	F		
WAN KHA	479	525	811	208	204	179	209	2136
MAELA	306	416	387	174	148	132	102	1359
KAMAW IAY KHO	277	324	455	172	145	94	97	1287
KLER KHO	245	426	453	161	162	73	75	1350
SHOW KLO	1193	1525	2134	660	656	429	434	5838
MAE THA WAW	512	645	919	372	383	201	221	2741
NOE PA DOH	129	181	191	91	57	58	50	619
	3141	4042	5340	1839	1755	1166	1188	15330
SALWEEN	147	256	256	91	89	53	69	814
TOTAL:-	3288	4298	5596	1930	1844	1219	1257	16,144

RICE RECEIVED FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER

1. Consortium of Christian Agencies	...	500	sacks
2. German Agro Action	...	900	"
3. Presiding Bishop's Fund	...	400	"
4. International Christian Aid	...	330	"
5. C O E R R	...	150	"
6. Archbishop Renato R. Martino	...	100	"
7. Reverend Larry Jones	...	100	"
8. RICE only	...	100	"
9. Mr. Ed Strong	...	20	"
TOTAL:-	...	2600	

NEED AND SUPPLY OF RICE FOR DECEMBER 1985

<u>NAME OF CAMP:</u>	<u>NEED</u>	<u>SUPPLY</u>
WANG KHA	324	350
MAELA	207	235
KAMAW LAY KHO	200	235
KLER KHO	213	210
SHOW KLO	1,000	1,020
MAE THA WAW	422	445
NOE PA DOH	95	105
TOTAL:-	2,461	2,600

NEED OF RICE PER PERSON PER MONTH CALCULATED ON

Over 5 Yrs. = 1 Unit
Under 5 Yrs. = $\frac{1}{2}$ Unit
1 Unit = 1 four-gallon tin (16.2 kgs.)
6 four-gallon tin = 1 sack (100 kgs.)

OTHER ITEMS RECEIVED FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER 1985

German Agro Action	- Fish Paste	2,000 kgs. (100 tins)
	Salt	4,000 kgs. (80 bags)
	Chilli	2,000 kgs. (200 boxes)
	Sardines	10,000 cans (100 boxes)
I.C.A.	- Blankets	760 pcs.
	Mosquito nets	100 pcs.
	Children Sweaters	1,035 pcs.
	Christmas gift pkts.	875 pkts.
	Orchid Balms	875 bots.
C O E R R	- Shrimp Paste	25 bags (500 kgs.)
	Fish Sauce	50 cans (50 gals.)

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ITEMS DISTRIBUTION

ITEMS	CAMPS								TOTAL
	WK.	ML.	KMK.	KK.	SK.	MTW.	NPD.	SAL.	
Fish Paste (tins)	46	28	26	-	-	-	-	-	100
Salt (bags)	10	6	6	8	30	16	4	-	80
Chilli (boxes)	26	17	15	19	75	40	8	-	200
Sardines (boxes)	-	-	-	-	60	30	10	-	100
Shrimp Paste (bags)	-	-	-	-	25	-	-	-	25
Fish Sauce (gals.)	-	-	-	50	-	-	-	-	50
Blankets (pcs.)	120	60	80	100	160	120	40	80	760
M. Nets (pcs.)	-	30	20	30	-	-	20	-	100
Sweaters (pcs.)	-	-	130	120	485	200	100	-	1035
Gift pkts. (pkts.)	600	275	-	-	-	-	-	-	875
Balm (bots.)	-	375	-	-	-	500	-	-	875

CONCLUSION

The year 1985 had been a year of severe hardship for the Karens who had to leave their homes and take shelter in the refugee camps because of the perilous situation facing them. From April to September the number of Karen refugees increased so greatly and so quickly that it had caused great alarm to the Karen Refugee Committee. To meet the need of the great multitude is not easy. But through the grace of God and the compassionate cooperation of all our benefactors, we have travelled through the year safe and sound.

We take this opportunity, to express again, our sincere gratitude to everyone concerned for doing their best in every possible way to help us. It is your help and support that sustain us in this troubled time and give us strength and hope to face the future. The noble deeds that you have done will forever be remembered and cherished by all of us. The future is still very bleak and uncertain. Therefore we will still be counting on all of you for further help and support.

May God's choicest blessings be yours and may the New Year bring joy, peace and prosperity to each and everyone of you.

I remain.

Yours faithfully,

Robert M. Mue
Chairman
Karen Refugee Committee